MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

IDF redeployment to southern Lebanon is "only a matter of days," Israeli Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi told the foreign press association in Tel Aviv. In remarks reported by Jerusalem radio, Levi declined to give an exact date for the pull out and stated that Israel will not be responsible for events in the Ash-Shuf after withdrawal. The Lebanese Army is capable of taking over in the region if it takes the right approach, Levi said according to the radio. Defense sources cited in a related radio report claim the IDF redeployment will not begin before the beginning of September.

In Beirut, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens denied claims that Israel is supplying weapons to inhabitants in the Ash-Shuf, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The IDF did not support the Druze in earlier clashes with the Phalangist forces, the minister said, but is exerting efforts to help all sides reach an agreement in the area. The minister reiterated Israeli support for the Lebanese Government, the radio added. Phalangist leaders expressed concern over the withdrawal in a meeting with Arens, a related Jerusalem radio report stated. Arens later rejected suggestions that the IDF disarm the Phalangist militia before withdrawal, the radio noted. The minister told reporters that if Syria maintains its unwillingness to withdraw, Israel will favor a "disengagement of forces" as a "temporary" measure, according to the radio.

Meanwhile, the IDF began to withdraw from the Ash-Shuf area and reinforced positions further south as the first stage in redeployment, the Voice of Lebanon reported. The IDF camp in Ad-Damur has been dismantled also, Beirut radio said. Beirut airport resumed operations as scheduled, the radio added.

Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas toured Syrian positions in the western Al-Biqa' valley, the Voice of Lebanon stated. Monitored Syrian sources have not been observed to report the visit. Earlier, IDF soldiers foiled a Syrian attempt to advance its positions in the western Al-Biqa', according to the Israeli paper *Ha'aretz*.

Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov stated that the USSR believes Israel to be the "aggressor" in Lebanon and its withdrawal must be "absolute and unconditional," Beirut radio reported. All foreign forces must also withdraw, the envoy added according to the radio.

PLO Affairs

Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with the PLO conciliation committee in Damascus and discussed the Fatah dispute, SANA reported. After the committee met with Fatah opposition leaders on 15 August, dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa told KUNA that he had "high hopes" of reaching "suitable" solutions to the dispute.

In the Al-Biqa' valley, Syrian forces intervened after "violent" clashes erupted between Fatah loyalists and dissidents, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. A related radio report stated that dissident leaders and Lebanese leftists have met to discuss the formation of a joint force with possible aid from Libya. Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has ordered a suicide squad to be formed to "liquidate" his opponents in Fatah and other factions as well as Lebanese leftist leaders sympathizing with the dissidents, according to the radio.

In a Damascus statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo, the PFLP-General Command led by Ahmad Jabril reiterated its "absolute support" for the dissidents and said it places all its resources at the disposal of the group opposing 'Arafat.

Libya-Chad

Negotiations to end the present conflict in Chad must be held only with Libya, Chadian President Hissein Habre stated at a Ndjamena news conference, according to SUNA. The Libyan forces are continuing to bomb Oum Chalouba and Koro-Toro and now occupy "50 percent" of the country, Habre told journalists. Habre also appealed to the African presidents meeting in Brazzaville to exert efforts to stop the "flagrant Libyan aggression," SUNA added.

In the Congolese capital, Libyan UN representative 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki told Paris radio that France could help by pressuring Habre to negotiate and to accept a political solution.

Meanwhile, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu ordered troops into eastern Chad between Oum Chalouba and Abeche, AFP reported.

Iran

In a speech to hajj organization officials broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni rejected the view that the hajj should be separated from its political content. He said the problems facing Muslims in various parts of the world should be raised at the hajj. The supervisor of pilgrim affairs, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, rejected the Saudi position that the hajj ceremonies must be free of political content, IRNA reported. Addressing participants in the forthcoming hajj ceremonies, Musavi-Kho'ini said it is incumbent on all Muslims to voice from Mecca their resentment toward world blasphemy, IRNA added.

Commenting on the war against Iraq, Khomeyni said in the same speech to hajj organization officials that those who maintain that

the people are becoming tired of the war sit idly, causing difficulties for the nation. The Iranian people, Khomeyni said, voluntarily go to the front. He equated becoming tired of the war with being tired of the Koran and of Islam.

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi presented Iran's first 5-year plan in an address to the Majlis, broadcast by Tehran radio. The plan provides for growth in the defense industry, self-sufficiency in food production, development of basic industries, expansion of mining, and improved social welfare. The plan also seeks to reduce the dependence of the country's economy on oil.

Afghanistan

In what was described by AFP and Karachi radio as the "biggest" attack by rebels on Kabul since the Soviet intervention, the Afghan radio and television building and a fort in eastern Kabul occupied by Soviet troops came under heavy fire "last weekend." AFP cited "unconfirmed reports" that Soviet losses were "very heavy." Shells and rockets fired from "at least five" rebel positions damaged apartments in the Microrayon district inhabited by Afghan party officials and Soviet advisers, AFP reported. Monitored Afghan sources have not been observed to report the rebel attack.

Pakistan

In a series of disturbances by demonstrators protesting military rule in Sind over 1,200 people have been arrested, AFP reported. One person died and six others were injured when police opened fire on rioting prisoners at Nawabshah jail. AFP added that people arrested during the protests against the military government have been held at Nawabshah jail. In an interview with the London paper *Ash-Sharq al-Awsar*, President Ziaul Haq precluded a change to civilian government until a suitable successor emerges. Zia added in the interview that the People's Party will not be allowed to contest the national elections.

Egypt

During a dialogue with Egyptian expatriates reported by MENA, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed the hope that relations with the Soviet Union will be normalized with full diplomatic representation. He said relations between the two countries "are developing for the better." 'Ali said the joint economic committee is to meet in December to discuss economic cooperation, MENA added. In an interview with *Cairo Today*, reported by Beirut radio, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said the international situation as a whole is suitable for a rapprochement between Egypt and the Soviet Union. Moscow radio's Arabic servicewelcomed a call by the Cairo paper *As-Siyasah* for an improvement in Egyptian-Soviet relations.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
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Mujahidin's 'Biggest Attack' on Kabul Reported

BK161530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, mujahidin attacked a fort near Kabul for 5 hours last week. This attack continued until late on Saturday [13 August], and it is said that this was the biggest attack on the Afghan capital since the Soviet military intervention began in the country.

These reports say the mujahidin also shelled Radio Afghanistan and (Mitran) residential complex where many Soviet officials and senior Afghan communist leaders live.

Neither side has not given any information about casualties. However, according to one report, two members of the ruling party were shot dead near the police academy on 9 August.It is believed that mujahidin killed them. In another attack in the suburbs of Kabul, mujahidin arrested many (?militamen).

AFP: Most Spectacular So Far

K161342 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 16 (AFP) — The Afghan radio-television building came under heavy fire last weekend in the most spectacular rebel attack against Kabul so far, Western diplomatic sources here said. Western diplomats posted in the Afghan capital said the Bala Hissar Fort, the staff radio and television building and an exclusive neighborhood reserved for government dignitaries were struck simultaneously by rocket and mortar fire Saturday night.

The attacks were the most spectacular against the capital since the Soviet intervention three-and-a-half years ago, according to the diplomats. The shelling was accompanied by exchanges of gunfire throughout the city, they said. For more than five hours, mortar shells rained on Bala Hissar, an ancient fort located in eastern Kabul and occupied exclusively by Soviet troops.

Diplomatic cables from Kabul early Sunday spoke of huge columns of smoke rising from the fort's ramparts which overlook the old city section of Kabul.

Unconfirmed reports in Kabul described Soviet losses as "very heavy."

Shells and rockets fired from at least five rebel positions damaged modern apartments in the Microrayon district, inhabited by Afghan party officials and Soviet advisers and their families. Buildings belonging to the state radio and television were said to have escaped serious damage.

In the rebel-infiltrated southern and western sections of Kabul, two Afghan Army posts were hit by rocket fire. There was also an increase of killings and abductions of party or secret police members by rebel forces, Western sources here said. The diplomats said it was possible that the minority Khalq faction of the Afghan Communist Party had assisted rebels in some operations against members of the rival Parcham group in power.

In other fighting, 50 Afghan civilians were said to have been killed or injured last week when a Soviet tank opened fire on a teahouse along the main road near Mazar-e Sharif, in northern Afghanistan. The attack came after a Soviet soldier was killed by a lone sniper, Western sources said.

Diplomats said Soviet tanks and armoured vehicles were massing along the entrance to the Panjsher Valley north of Kabul in what could be preparations for a new offensive against resistance positions there as a six-month truce comes to an end.

Guerrillas last Friday attacked several government posts close to the entrance to the valley, causing numerous casualties, Western sources said. They were also said to have seized the cargo of five trucks bearing provisions for Kabul from the Soviet Union.

Diplomats also said rebels last Friday ambushed an Afghan military convoy on the road from Ghazni to Qandahar, in southern Afghanistan. Bodies of Afghan soldiers killed in the attack were still being flown into the capital two days later, the sources said.

BBC: Khalq Cooperated

TA161632 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Western diplomatic sources have reported heavy and prolonged fighting in the Afghan capital, Kabul. They say the fighting on Saturday night was some of the heaviest in the city since the Soviet invasion 3 years ago. The diplomats in India and Pakistan say that Afghan guerrillas attacked a Soviet-manned fortress, a housing complex for Soviet and Afghan officials and the headquarters of Radio Afghanistan.

The guerrillas are said to have rained rockets, mortar, and machinegun fire on the buildings. There is no word on the number of people killed or injured but the diplomats say Soviet casualties are believed to have been heavy. They say that according to some Kabul residents, members of the Khalq section of the ruling Afghan Communist Party cooperated with the guerrillas in some of the fighting in order to settle old scores.

Gandhi, Rao, MP's Debate Sri Lankan Situation

BK161649 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The prime minister today announced that she is prepared to send an emissary to Colombo to facilitate the talks between the Sri Lanka Government and the Tamil leaders.

Mrs Gandhi expressed her admiration for the statesmanship shown by Mr Amirthalingam in his discussions with her and other leaders despite his anguish and the bitterness caused by the developments in Sri Lanka. She said he had given harrowing accounts of the brutalities to which the minority Tamils have been subjected. Mrs Gandhi said she personally and the government and her party are as deeply distressed as any member who had spoken in the house. We do condemn genocide and injustice to Tamils of Sri Lanka.

Noting that this is the fourth successive week that the sorrow and concern over the tragic developments in Sri Lanka had found expression in parliament, Mrs Gandhi said the agony of our brothers and sisters in Tamil Nadu is the agony of the entire nation. She said however strong our feelings are, the government has to show greater restraint and consider at every step whether our words and actions will help or harm the Sri Lanka Tamils. She assured the members that the restraint shown by the government is coupled with firmness. We are closely watching the situation. The government hopes that with the continuous support of parliament and the Indian people, it would be able to bring about an atmosphere more conducive to negotiations, she added.

Replying to the 6-hour debate, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, said India wants to adopt a practical approach to solve the crisis in Sri Lanka. He pointed out that even Mr Amirthalingam now feels that the negotiations between the Sri Lanka Government and the Tamil leaders have a chance of success. The Sri Lanka Government has also realized that if the party headed by Mr Amirthalingam becomes weak, there is nobody else who can deliver the goods.

Mr Rao said there are many hindrances before the negotiation starts, and India, which offered its good offices, will have to sort the difficulties step by step. The prime minister's statement has (?clearly) indicated the approach and the course of action.

About the Tamil properties taken away by the Sri Lanka Government, Mr Rao pointed out that the law provides for returning them back to their rightful owners. But we have to wait and see how it is going to be implemented. He assured the members that India is prepared to send all the necessary assistance for providing relief to the refugees. He said normalcy has not yet returned but the situation is improving.

Initiating the discussion, Mr Ramakrishnan, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam [AIADMK], said he was happy that parliament and the whole country have condemned the killings in Sri Lanka in one voice. He wanted to know whether the government has received any further response from Colombo after President Jayewardene's special envoy returned to Sri Lanka.

Congress-I members congratulated the prime minister on her statesmanship and restraint in handling the matter.

Members of Communist Party of India-Marxist and Janata Party wanted a resolution to be moved in the house condemning the killings. Members belonging to AIADMK felt that all citizens of Sri Lanka should be assured of their fundamental rights and the victims must be compensated fully. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam was of the opinion that the relief operations undertaken in Sri Lanka should be monitored by India. A Bharatiya Janata Party member described the killings as a slur on humanity.

Gandhi Receives Sri Lankan TULF Leader 16 August

BK161616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Sri Lanka Tamil United Liberation Front leader, Mr Amirthalingam, had another meeting with Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi today. Earlier this morning, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leaders, Mr (Malachali Narayan) and Mr Dandapane, met her and discussed the Sri Lanka developments.

Sheltering of Sri Lankan 'Terrorists' Denied

BK161621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] India has refuted the allegation that Sri Lanka terrorists get shelter in some southern states.

A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today in reply to questions that terrorists who are apprehended have always been arrested promptly. They are dealt with according to law.

Meanwhile, thousands of people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka are seeking assurances of protection from the Sri Lankan Government. The Ceylon Workers Congress [CWC] has sought a meeting with President Jayewardene to discuss measures to enable them to live with dignity, safety, and security. The CWC president, Mr (Pendanan), said he is prepared to lead a delegation to discuss these matters with Mr Jayewardene.

AFP: Protesters in Assam To Resume Pressure

BK161612 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 16 (AFP) — After months of calm, anti-foreigner protesters in the northeastern state of Assam, bordering Bangladesh, today announced an immediate plan to resume pressure, PRESS TRUSTY OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The four-year-old campaign for the detection and deportation of an unofficially estimated five million Bangladesh and Nepalese immigrants erupted into large-scale ethnic violence in February, killing up to 3,500 people.

The All Assam Students Union and Assam People's Action Council, co-sponsors of the campaign, called on their supporters to obstruct the movement of ministers and legislators in the state starting from Sunday, PTI said in a dispatch from Gauhati, the Assamese capital. It added that they had decided jointly on a programme of action marking the revival of the protest, suspended after the February violence. The announcement of polls in which many newcomers were eligible to vote triggered off massacres of mostly Bengali-speaking immigrants by the Assamese natives and tribals. The protesters had campaigned fiercely against elections to a new legislative assembly before a solution was found to the problem of aliens.

PTI said that Biraj Sarmah, convenor of the People's Action Council, told reporters that students throughout Assam would boycott their classes tomorrow and ask for public donations and relief for people affected by the current extensive mansoon floods in Assam.

On Monday, the staff would observe a one-hour "blackout." This was to be followed by an eight-day programme from Saturday when the movement leaders would tour interior areas to organise public meetings "to strengthen the organisation and apprise the people of the prevailing situation," it said.

The federal government has held several rounds of talks to settle the issue with the protesters over the last three years, since shortly after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's return to power in 1980. But they made no tangible progress.

At least two bomb explosions marked the Indian independence day celebrations in Assam yesterday, PTI said.

A separate PTI despatch today said that a powerful blast rocked the promises of a cinema in Tezpur last night, making panic-stricken people run out, but there were no casualties. In a similar blast a little girl was killed and two others were injured at an official independence anniversary function in Nowgong District, scene of some of the worst violence in February, earlier reports said.

The protestors had boycotted government-sponsored celebrations and organised their own parallel functions.

Insurgents in Northeast States Reportedly Join Forces

BK160619 Hong Kong AFP in English 0558 GMT 16 Aug 83

[By Sabita Goswami]

[Text] Gauhati, India, Aug. 16 (AFP) — Insurgents in seven northeast Indian states — Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh — have joined forces in a Mao-inspired liberation front, military intelligence sources have revealed.

Representatives of the nationalist movements within these states met secretly in Assam on August 2 and decided to adopt a common platform and to coordinate their armed attacks against local security forces, the source said.

The selection of a single leader and a flag for the "seven sisters," as the states are called, will be taken up in the next meeting, the source added.

The seven, wedged between Bhutan, China, Burma and Bangladesh, were a single entity until India's independence from Britain in 1947.

The 24 million inhabitants of the region include a myriad of tribes of Tibetan-Burmese origin, including several tribal revolutionary groups. The area spreads across 255,000 sq. km. (98,456 sq. miles).

Until now attempts toward unification have failed. Some Christian nationalists have refused any alliance with Marxists groups but this month's meeting apparently overcame that obstacle, an army report said.

Tribal insurrection began in 1956 in Nagaland and in 1966 in Mizoram. But the killing of Assamese nationalist leader Biman Das in an ambush in 1981 at Manipur brought the fighting into the open. On February 6, as ethnic violence flared in Assam and left more than 3,000 people dead, a six-member police patrol was killed near Iezpur, Barang District, with the Assam People's Liberation Army claiming responsibility.

More recently, documents seized at Mapao during a raid against the clandestine headquarters of the Marxist National Socialist Council of Nagaland confirmed the existence of an overall plan for subversion across the seven states, the source said. The documents also showed that several hundred male and female youths had been sent to training camps of the liberation army in Burma and returned to join the cadres of the seven sisters liberation army.

Until now, insurrection in the northeast has centered mostly on harassing the isolated police posts or small patrols. This war without end, as the magazine *India Today* called it, has left several hundred civilians and military personnel dead in the past 10 years.

India's 36th independence anniversary yesterday was boycotted in Assam where police were put on a state of alert. In Nagaland, a nationalist flag was hoisted for the first time in broad daylight.

Cooperation Agreements Signed With Saudi Arabia

BK111631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] India and Saudi Arabia today signed a protocol in New Delhi for expanding cooperation in a number of areas. It was signed by the finance ministers of the two countries. The areas of cooperation identified relate to supply of power to remote areas in Saudi Arabia with the use of solar energy, joint research in agriculture and pure sciences, computers and electronics, and exchange of scholars. It was decided to streamline methods of recruitment of Indian workers by Saudi Arabia.

An agreement has also been signed between the two countries under which Saudi Arabia will give a loan of about 30 crore

rupees for the construction of the (Koraput-Raigarha) railway line in Orissa.

Prime Minister To Visit Cyprus 2-4 October
BK161456 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1432 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] At the invitation of the president of the Republic of Cyprus, Spiros Kiprianou, Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi will pay an official visit to Cyprus on 2 to 4 October 1983.

Sayid Nurul Hasan Appointed Ambassador to USSR
BK161521 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1450 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Professor Sayid Nurul Hasan, vice president of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, has been appointed as ambassador of India to the USSR in succession to Vishnu Kalyandas Ahuja. In his appointment, Professor Hasan will carry the personal rank of minister of state. He is expected to take up his assignment shortly.

Trials Underway on New Main Battle Tank
BK130910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] India's first prototype main battle tank — MBT 80 — is being put to preliminary trial by the combat vehicle research and development establishment at Avadi near Madras. The Defense Research and Development Organization launched the 600 million rupee project 10 years ago. The organization wants to proceed step by step by building five more prototypes before the production model. When completed, the MBT 80 will be one of the best in the world in terms of mobility and armor protection.

Press Note Issued on Arrests, Injuries in Sind

BK170632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Dadu District magistrate yesterday says college students accompanied by outside mischievous elements compelled students of the city's educational institutions to boycott classes. They threw stones at the magistrate and policemen on duty. Seven workers of a defunct political party courted arrest.

The press note adds that various groups engaged in unlawful activities, threw stones at various government offices, a railway station, and a civil hospital, and caused slight damage to them. They set on fire two buses of the Sind Road Transport Corporation and enaged in destructive activities on premises of the sessions court and damaged the court's records and furniture.

The press note says police used tear gas and a mild baton charge to disperse the mob and arrested 60 people.

A summary military court in Larkana yesterday sentenced four people to 1 year rigorous imprisonment, 10 lashes, and fine of 20,000 rupees each for taking part in a demonstration and raising slogans against the government.

Delhi Report

BK161701 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] There have been demonstrations in Pakistan against the military rule. In Sind Province, police resorted to firing after a baton charge and tear gas failed to disperse a 2,000 strong crowd indulged in attacking banks, telephone exchange, and vehicles in the town of Dadu. At Thar Parkar, about 480 km east of Karachi, police arrested several opposition leaders and had to use baton and tear gas to break a rally.

AFP Account

OW161826 Hong Kong AFP in English 1818 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 16 (AFP) — One person died and six others were injured when police opened fire on prisoners who rebelled against prison authorities today on the third day of opposition protest against military rule in Pakistan, official sources said.

The incident happened at Nawabshah jail in Sind Province, southeastern Pakistan.

Informed sources said that people arrested in the past three days of violence, mostly supporters of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), had been taken to Nawabshah jail.

Official sources said the prisoners tried to escape by scaling the outer wall. Police tried to bring the situation under control by using tear gas but the rioting continued.

Finally, to prevent the prisoners from escaping the police opened fire killing one and wounding six others.

In another development, officials said that a further 15 persons involved in yesterday's burning of vehicles and damage to railway line in Ghotki about 300 miles north of Karachi had been arrested.

A demonstration took place in nearby Khairpur town today where a crowd tried to set a vehicle on fire. Police despersed the protestors by using batons and firing tear gas shells, officials said adding that eight persons had been arrested.

Among other incidents reported today from Sind Province, reliable sources said police in Dadu, a town on the banks of the Indus River, fired in the air to disperse protestors who rampaged through several public buildings and set fire to seven official vehicles.

In the main Sind port city of Karachi, some 5,000 protesters shouted slogans hostile to General Zia's regime, while two Sind political leaders and 12 activists allowed themselves to be hauled off by police.

Meanwhile, in the small town of Thatta, a group of young protestors attacked a police station and freed seven opposition activists imprisoned the previous day.

Local reports from the cities of Jacobabad, Sukkur, and Hyderabad said that police used tear gas and baton charges in numerous clashes with demonstrators, but no serious injuries where recorded.

In Larkana, a military court sentenced four MRD activists arrested on Sunday to four lashes of the whip and a year in prison.

It was the first time floggings have been handed down by the courts since protests leading up the 1979 execution of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Larkana was the stronghold of Mr. Buutto, who was deposed by General Zia in 1977.

Late today, authorities in Karachi reported 1,249 people arrested over the previous 24 hours in Sind, where opposition to Pakistan's ruling armed forces has traditionally been strong.

The opposition has reported 900 arrests since Sunday in Sind, where a ban on all public meetings of over four people has now been extended to the majority of towns.

In the three other Pakistani provincial capitals, Lahore, Peshawar and Quetta, groups of three to eight local MRD activists have been volunteering for arrest, but the movement has not spread outside those towns.

Western diplomats here were surprised at the relative success of the protest movement in spite of General Zia's announcement on Friday that general elections would lead to an end of martial law in Pakistan by March 1985.

Ziaul Haq Comments on Domestic, Foreign Issues

PM160844 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 14 Aug 83 pp 1,2

[Khalid 'Abd ar-Rahim al-Ma'ina report on interview with President Ziaul Haq in Islamabad — date not given]

[Text] Islamabad — Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has precluded the possibility of handing over a civilian government until he is certain that, as he put it, a suitable successor emerges and deserves to be called the people's elected representative. He also precluded the possibility of a quick end to the Iraq-Iran war and indirectly warned Israel against attacking Pakistani nuclear installations.

This statement came in an exclusive interview with *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat* and its sister paper *Arab News*. He said he has no political ambitions. However, he added that he would not be sincere if he announced his wish to renounce all powers and step down from his post.

Ziaul Haq announced that the program he has drawn up will achieve the desired results in laying the foundations of sound democracy in order to elect the people's representative and consolidate a parliamentary life that would serve the citizens and the country.

He said that the People's Party established by the late Prime Minister Zulfiqar Bhutto does not pose any threat to him or to his regime and that the future of political parties in Pakistan is not yet clear.

Asked whether he will allow the People's Party to contest the national elections, he said: "Only parties registered after 1979 will be allowed to take part in the elections and, therefore, the People's Party will not be allowed to contest the national elections."

Ziaul Haq said that he does not agree with the claim that his government is unpopular among women's circles in Pakistan. He affirmed that the women in Pakistan support the government, that there is nobody calling for a modern state in Pakistan, and that the women understand their role, particularly since this role has been clearly defined.

Asked about freedom of the press, the Pakistani president said press freedom should be coupled with press responsibility in that only subjects that go beyond the limits of a responsible press and which are slanderous to individuals and public figures necessitate measures taken by the government. He said he supports freedom of the press unless it indulges in such slanderous matters.

The Pakistani president said he has not succeeded in eradicating corruption from public life in Pakistan and hopes that the promotion of Islamic values will help to create an upright society.

Speaking about the international situation, the Pakistani president said he proposed a permanent peace treaty between India and Pakistan that would prevent the outbreak of war between them out of his belief in friendship, good neighborliness, and the desire to achieve sound peaceful relations. But India, he said, received my initiative with surprise and submitted a peace plan which is basically no different from my plan except in two points which my government will study next month.

Speaking about Kashmir, Ziaul Haq said Pakistan believes in seeking the views of the people of Kashmir regardless of the outcome of such a referendum because Pakistan is interested in the conflict over Kashmir despite the fact that it has been suspended temporarily. He expressed the hope that this will not muddy relations between India and Pakistan. He said that despite the fact that the situation in Kashmir is an ostacle, he prefers to work for the restoration of normal relations with India.

Speaking about the Soviet Union, the Pakistani president praised the program of aid which it gives to Pakistan and the continuing aid Pakistan is receiving in the field of technology. He said there are no problems between him and the Soviet Union except the problem of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, which puts his country in the position of neighboring the Soviet Union. He affirmed that, despite this problem, bilateral relations between the two countries have not been affected.

Referring to relations with the United States, he stressed that these relations are founded on a firm basis despite ups and downs in the past. "The present U.S. Administration has extended a hand of friendship and cooperation to us and has shown desire to cooperate," he said.

He also said that relations between his country and China are not based on selfish interests but on permanent understanding. He denied that China adopted a negative stand toward Pakistan during the Bangladesh war. He said that China did its best to save Pakistan from a difficult situation in 1971. India then intended to invade West Pakistan and was capable of doing so, but it preferred to heed the U.S. advice and refrained from doing so in order to avoid becoming involved in a battle that might bring about its destruction.

Ziaul Haq said he is working closely with the Islamic Conference Organization to end the war in the Gulf despite the fact that he is not optimistic about reaching a quick agreement between the two sides to end the war. He said he prays to god that Iraq's stand, which has always been flexible, will change. [as published]

The Pakistani president denied any Pakistani designs to use nuclear power for nonpeaceful purposes.

Regarding the reports of the planning of an Israeli attack on Pakistani nuclear installations, the Pakistani president said the Israeli Government must act prudently and responsibly because to act otherwise would lead to serious consequences.

Concluding, the Pakistani president said his country will take all necessary measures to prevent the infiltration of drugs into Pakistani society, which is beginning to become involved in this epidemic.

'General Reaction' to New Political Framework Viewed

BK161100 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Commentary by Akhtar Adil Rizwi]

[Text] Since the pesident announced the political framework for the country, it has set at rest a lot of speculation that was rife in the country. Leaders of public opinion, ulema,and a large number of intellectuals have hailed the president's announcement made at a special session of the Majlis-i-Shoora — Federal Council — on Friday. The general reaction is that with the president's announcement, the way has been paved for an orderly transfer of power to the representatives of the people. The president's plan envisages the completion of elections at the local, provincial, and federal levels in 18 month's time, that is, by March 23, 1985.

Many people have come out wholeheartedly in praise of the president for fulfilling his promise made on August 14 last year. Those in trade and industry have particularly welcomed the president's announcement. In [words indistinct] an assurance to the private sector about all possible encouragements. This assurance, they felt, would strengthen the confidence of the private sector and quicken the pace of economic development.

To the people at large it was a matter of great satisfaction that the president reaffirmed his commitment to the process of Islamization. Deeply gratifying was the president's annoucement that he was going to take further stops to complete the process of Islamization. In that, he would always enjoy the enthusiastic support of the whole nation. There is a widespread feeling that the president has shown great reason in devising a plan for the restoration of democracy under the 1973 Constitution with suit able amendments. The president's program has been described as farsighted and well-conceived. The Islamizaton program is bringing the nation to the goals of the creation of Pakistan.

Minorities in Pakistan had always enjoyed a special place of honor and security. They have also hailed the president's announcement. The central chairman of the Pakistan Christian Association and other minority leaders have welcomed the provi sion that will make it constitutionally possible for them to elect their representatives on the basis of separate electorate. There is particular appreciation of the provision for a balance of power between the president and the prime minister as it responds to (?true) national interest.

MASHRIQ Maintains MRD Existence Threatened

GF161420 Karachi Mashriq in Urdu 14 Aug 83 P 1

[By staff correspondent]

[Excerpt] Karachi 13 Aug: The existence of the MRD has been threatened after President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq announced that elections are to be held.

Most of the leaders of the MRD now believe that there is no need to continue the movement further. Most of the Muslim League and the Tehrik-i-Istiqlal leaders agree that the movement should be discontinued, but the two factions in the MRD which have no representation among the people and are pro-socialist insist on continuing the movement. A large majority of the MRD leaders have gone underground fearing arrest; and with the resignation of Ghulam Ahmad Bilour, the MRD leadership has split.

Khomeyni Addresses Hajj Officials 16 August
LD161421 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Ayatollah Khomeyni address to Islamic Guidance Ministry and Hajj Organization officials at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 16 August — recorded; duration 42 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like first to thank you, gentlemen, for coming here so that we could discuss things together and to say to you certain things that must be said to some extent. I hope, God willing, you gentlemen will be successful and carry out this blessed trip with health and success. [shouts of "God willing"]

You are going on a hajj pilgrimage at a time when the world's and region's situation is as you can observe. The world is plagued by the big powers, and the world's oppressed afflicted by satanical powers; the situation is as you observe it thanks to interference by big powers. You are going on this pilgrimage at the time when, as a result of Saddam's ignominious defeat, our country's residential areas are being attacked, are being pounded by rockets. You have seen what they did to Andimeshk.

You are going on this blessed trip at a time when the big powers are busy corrupting the region and [word indistinct].On the one hand, the Soviet Union is committing an act of aggression against Afghanistan, and against any other place it can. It is crushing the people of Afghanistan. Praise be to God, the Afghan nation is manfully resisting that big power.

On the other hand, America, which heads the criminals, is committing aggression against and interfering in all oppressed countries, particularly Muslim countries. It has made countries wishing to remain independent the priority target for its oppression. Despite this, unfortuantely, the governments [words indistinct].

The fundamental aspect of the hajj philosophy lies in its political dimension. Criminal hands from all corners of the globe are busy attacking this aspect. Their extensive propaganda has, unfortunately, influenced even Muslims, to such an extent that most of them regard the hajj either as an empty act of worship without considering [words indistinct]. From its inception the political dimension of hajj has never been any less than its dimension as an act of worship. In addition to its political dimension, hajj in itself is an act of worship. The problems facing Muslims in various parts of the world should be discussed when they meet at hajj so as to find out how Muslims live, their conditions, the nation's situation, what relationship exists among the clergy in the various countries in which they live. These matters that should be investigated.

Those palace-appointed preachers in the region and elsewhere who say that hajj should be separated from its political content are denouncing the prophet of God, the Islamic Khulafa and God's saints. They do not realize that hajj is for that purpose, for Muslims to understand and solve one another's problems. Islam's political aspects are several times greater than its aspects relating to the act of worship, for political aspects are related to acts of worship.

You, gentlemen, who are going on this blessed pilgrimage, should bear in mind the colonialist mentality that has entered the heads of even many of the clergy in the Islamic countries, and in your sermons and meetings should tell the people that Islam is not what we have experienced thus far, namely, simply going round the Ka'bah a few times. You should have nothing to do with what the arrogant powers are doing to Muslims in the world, should not be indifferent to or denounce those who want to speak about the problems facing Muslims. The harm suffered by Islam from these palace-appointed preachers is greater than that inflicted by America, for the former are isolating Islam in the guise of Islam. They are being forced to assume such an attitude. But they cannot succeed. When they go on a hajj pilgrime, Muslims should have a living, crushing hajj, a hajj that condemns the criminal Soviet Union, the criminal America. It is not a true hajj if the problems of Muslims are not considered, if these crimes are concealed, if matters contrary to the interests of Muslims are raised, if we are not allowed to speak about the crimes committed against Muslims by governments and big powers. Such a hajj would be a meaningless facade.

Muslims must awaken, these 1-billion strong Muslims should wake and get rid of the two big powers and other powers corrupting these areas. [shouts of "God is great," "Death to Saddam and Monafeqin," "Death to America," "Death to the Soviet Union," "Death to Israel"] Is it not shameful for Islamic countries and governments to see what Israel is doing to the Palestinians and the crimes it is committing in Lebanon, and for 1 billion Muslims to sit by idly watching all this happen? Why are they afraid? Why should they be so afraid? The vital jugular vein of the East and the West is in their hands. Oil is this vital jugular vein. If oil supplies to them are cut for only 10 days, they will become humble. This jugular vein is in the hands of the so-called Islamic governments, yet they offer their oil on a platter in supplication. Is this not a calamity for Muslims, to give foreigners their all on a platter and be grateful to them for accepting the offering? If Muslims ignore their divine matters, their Koranic matters, and their Islamic commandments, it is natural that they give up everything in supplication. Should we not awaken? Should they not learn a lesson from Iran?

All the big powers in the world today — from the Soviet Union, which is constantly helping Iraq; to America, which is acting likewise; and France which has now become the focus of all the corruption in the world, a country that claims to be the cradle of freedom, that is helping Saddam with pride, that is housing terrorists — Muslims must punch them all in the mouth. If they join together, they can do this.

Thanks to the blessing of Islam, all the big powers, the Soviet Union and America, have been slapped in the face by Iran. This Islamic country will never allow them to have a way back into this country. [shouts of "God willing"] Those who are waiting in the hope that America might return or that the Soviet Union might enter are hoping in vain. They should abandon these hopes. Neither America nor the Soviet Union will be able to enter this country as long as [words indistinct] remain alive. [shouts of "God willing"] For as long as we have our young ones, who are now going to the front and who are making such epics, no one can harm this country. [shouts of "God willing" and "God is great"]

Those who sit in their homes saying that the people have become tired of the war and of this and that were themselves already tired of everything before anything started. Who are the people referred to here? It is the very Andimeshk, following an act of aggression against it that shouts: War, war until victory. The same applies to Dezful or wherever else you care to consider. Whenever there is trouble at a place and Saddam commits a crime there, everyone shouts: "Death to this or that" and "War, until victory." Are these not the people? Are not the people who meet in the mosques and elsehwere, who shout "War, war," who voluntarily go to the front, the Iranian people? Have they come down from wars? Is it the Iranian people who sit in their homes while this country — God forbid — might be facing destruction? Is it the Iranian people who say we are getting tired of the war? When did you go to the war, to feel tired now? How could anyone of you feel tired? Which one of you has been prepared to condemn America or the Soviet Union? You openly sit idly causing difficulties for the nation. It is the people from the villages and small towns and of the bazaar who are helping the war at and behind the front. It is they who are serving, from the young to the old, from their menfolk to their womenfolk. They are not tired. Why should they be tired? Are they suppose to turn their back on Islam? In this war we are only defending ourselves, defending Islam. If in this war we feel tired, it will mean we are getting tired of the blessed Koran, of Islam. Which section in this country, save for a corrupt minority, would look forward to such a situation?

Our young ones know what Saddam would do to this country and everything the people possess if, God forbid, he were to triumph over this country. Those valiant youngsters who are [words indistinct] would not be idly sitting in their homes saying: We are tired of the war. Of what should they be tired?--of defending their honor?--of defending their country?--of defending Islam? What has made them tired, then? There is a group of people who sit in a corner saying that whatever is done in this country is wrong, no matter how right it has been. They complain about any service the government renders.

This is a living nation, a nation to reckon with in the world. Iran used to be a country that was not respected by its neighbors. It was a country living on Mr Aryamehr oil. Otherwise it had nothing. It was dependent on others for everything. Everything in our country was in ruins, except in provincial capitals, chiefly Tehran itself, where some rich and aristocratic families wanted to enjoy themselves. For the rest, the villages and remote areas, all were neglected. The people in these areas could die for want of medical care. But the government is now working on building roads, schools, and hospitals. Several thousand schools have been built. Several thousand other things have been built. Despite all this, these gentlemen sit in their homes claiming that nothing has been done. What do they expect to be done, then? Why do you not complain about the corrupt streets created under the Reza Khan and under Mohammad Reza?

What has been done during the past few years? A change has come about within our youth, who have been driven away from the cabarets to the battlefield against the infidels, from the centers of corruption to the centers of good, worship, and prayer. Throughout the country, they are teaching or learning for the sake of God. What else do you want to happen? Why do you gentlemen close your eyes only to open them for American and European MiG's? [as heard]

Open your eyes and see what has happened in Iran. Do you expect others to tell you? You should publicize this country and this religion and defend this country by your pen and by your speech. Instead you complain about shortcomings. Why are you doing this? What have you done to complain about others? These people, these oppressed people, these deprived ones, these people living in the south of the city make so many sacrifices for Islam without ever complaining about being tired. Even now they are marching toward the front to defend Islam in a war. Are these not part of the nation? Are not the youngsters part of the nation? Do you expect America to come here to form a nation? You should bear these things in mind.

At any rate, you gentlemen who are going on this blessed pilgrimage should tell the issues of the hajj to the people, most of whom do not quite realize the various aspects of hajj, before doing anything else. You should call on the people and explain the issue of the hajj to them — explain the things associated with it that should be done as an obligation and things that should be shunned. In addition, you should explain matters affecting the Muslims. You should tell them: Why are you sitting idly waiting for America from across the globe to come and run your affairs for you or provide security for the Persian Gulf? What has Persian Gulf security got to do with America? Who are you to come from the other side of the globe to provide security for the Persian Gulf? We should do this ourselves. It is none of America's business. The Muslims themselves should do the job. The Gulf people themselves should do the job.

We would like to be brothers of other countries. Even though they may have deviated, if they reform and stretch their hands of brotherhood toward us we only have their interests at heart. We want them to be respected. We want them not to be America's servants. We do not want America from across the globe to act as your master, or the Soviet Union from the other side. You should be together. If you get together your nations will follow you. Treat your nations well and your nations will support you.

If you treated them well and observed Islamic standards the nations would all be behind you and the Islamic nation would be invulnerable. At present the [word indistinct] of the nations is invulnerable, because it is serving the people and the people are following it. The people are [word indistinct]. When some bothersome thing cropped up during Reza Khan's era and during Mohammad Reza Khan's era the people felt happy because one of these two was in trouble. But if some trouble cropped up now for our country, for our government, the people would solve the problem.

Your own government is serving you. Your Majlis is serving you. And that is as it should be. Everyone of us should serve the people. We should all thank those who carry on with the war despite difficulties. Despite the fact that everyone is against us, the name [as heard] is, praise be to God, on everyone's lips the world over, and the Muslims are behind us. I hope that this blessed trip will enable you to draw the attention of the Muslims and those palace-appointed clergymen to the fact that they should not seek their prestige in serving America or the Zionists. They should

seek their status in Islam, in the house of God. You should get together so that your congregation does not run counter to the interests of Islam. You should seek to cut short the hands of big powers, God willing. [shouts of "God willing"]

God willing, this great Islamic congress will achieve the desired result, which Islam wants. [shouts of "God is great"]

May you all be in good health and happiness. You should pray for Islam and the Muslims and pray for the Muslims and the heads of Islam to wake up and pay attention to Islamic Interests. You should pray for this nation which is devoting everything to Islam and is active toward that end. You should pray to God Almighty to grant guidance to these blind-hearted people at home and abroad, so that they might return to Islam's embrace, pay attention to Islamic interests, and not sit about idly and carry out obstructionism. May they go along with this nation.

May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. [shouts of "Khomeyni, Khomeyni, O God, protect Khomeyni"]

Radio Iran Reports on Khomeyni's Speech

GF161752 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Ruhollah Khomeyni called upon the members of the political group for the hajj pilgrimage, whom the radio of the Islamic Republic describes as clergymen of the Hajj Organizations, that they should turn this year's pilgrimage into a political campaign. For the first time, he relegated the religious aspect of the pilgrimage to a secondary position and claimed that in Islam politics and religion merge together.

He told the clerics they were the owners of the oil artery in the Persian Gulf and threatened the world that in case Iran is threatened, they should cut oil supplies. He strongly attacked the people who feel tired and bored with the war and pointed out that people at the Friday prayers are shouting "War, war, till victory," and that the fire within warmongering clerics should not be allowed to go out.

Ministry Issues Statement on Iraq, Egypt Treaty

LD161752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a statement in connection with the treaty of friendship between the ruling regimes of Iraq and Egypt. The statement says in part: Simultaneously with the aggressive actions of U.S. imperialism in Islamic territories under the codename Bright Star 83 and the occupation of Egyptian territory, the Iraqi ruling regime is concluding a treaty of cooperation with a regime which insistently is attached to the shameful Camp David agreement. The Iraqi regime must inform world public opinion about what new development has taken place since 1979, the year Arab heads of state met in Baghdad to enable Egypt's return to the Arab fold and the expansion of relations with Egypt. Has this development been anything other than more aggression and further treachery by usurping Israel?

The statement concludes: In view of the fact that this step by the Iraqi regime is tantamount to betrayal of the aspirations, aims, and rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestine revolution and the people and struggling organizations of Palestine should decisively question and condemn this step.

Musavi, Velayati Address Foreign Ministry Seminar

LD070214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] A seminar of Islamic Republic ambassadors and charge d'affaires in Southeast Asia and Oceania was opened this morning at the Foreign Ministry by Prime Minister Musavi.

The seminar began with remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister 'Azizi who explained the seminar's objectives. Then, commenting on the importance of the seminar, the prime minister said: The present seminar, set up by the Foreign Ministry, no doubt, has great significance for the future of our foreign policy. He added: We are a country which, in practice, is building its foriegn policy from the foundation. Our foreign policy and all the links you, the ambassadors and charge d'affaires, establish abroad,in practice, stem from what takes place inside the country.

In another part of his speech, the prime minister said: Our Islamic Revolution is a revolution that always addresses itself to beyond our borders; it is not a revolution that can be confined within our borders. Should this happen, then it could vanish. He then cited relations between the Islamic Republic and the rest of the world, saying: We do not want to remain isolated; we want to have logical relations with the rest of the world. In the meantime, we do not want to ignore the innate motives within our revolution, being the protection of the oppressed anywhere in the world under any circumstances.

Foreign Minister Velayati, explaining the roles of faith and belief in countering oppressive powers and citing the revolutionary spirit of the Iranian people, said: It is this very revolutionary and Islamic enthusiasm that makes the Iranian nation firm against the collective plots, the greatest of which is the imposed war by Saddam who enjoys the support of all superpowers.

Continuing his remarks and alluding to the division of the world into two blocs, East and West, Velayati added: Neutrality vis-a-vis these two arrogant powers cannot serve as a motive for nations to come together and free themselves from their domination; rather, a power that can stand up to theirs must be created. The Islamic Revolution experience has proved that the weapon that has maintained its cutting edge against the superpowers' weapons is the weapon of faith.

The seminar is to run for 10 days at the Foreign Ministry.

Grenade Explodes at Japanese Embassy in Tehran 16 Aug

OW170047 Tokyo KYODO in English 0036 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran Aug 17 KYODO — A grenade exploded at the Japanese Embassy here Tuesday afternoon shattering several window panes, but no one was injured, embassy officials said.

The grenade was hurled at the front entrance of the embassy at 1:15 p.m. Tuesday.

Police were searching for the attacker who fled without being sighted.

The background of the attack was not immediately known. Observers here pointed out possible connection between the attack and the visit to Iran by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe last week. Some Iranian leaders recently criticized Japan and other foreign countries for what they called applying pressure on the Tehran government to end its war with Iraq.

'Orly Group' Attacks Air France Representative

NC170712 Paris AFP in English 0710 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 17 (AFP) — Air France representative Jean Claude Eluard was slightly injured when his car came under automatic fire here today, in an attack immediately claimed by the militant "Orly" Armenian group.

Mr Eluard told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE one of six bullets fired by two unidentified assailants grazed his leg. He represents the French national airline in Iran and Afghanistan.

The claim was made by the Orly Group, which has claimed earlier attacks on French and other foreign targets in Iran, in a call to the AFP bureau here with a password which had never been made public.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,429

LD161951 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,429 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday in the Piranshah operational sector and the Bakhtaran border regions between Islam's mighty combatants and Iraq's aggressive mercenaries. Our forces continued to consolidate their defensive positions and to defend their area. By opening artillery fire on the enemy positions and units, they checked the movement of the Iraqi forces and neutralized their air operations.

At 0830 yesterday morning in the Mehran operational sector, a reinforced enemy unity attacked in an effort to retake one of the sensitive hills in the area. But Islam's victorious and mighty forces opened accurate and effective artillery fire on the Iraqi forces and crushed their operations, repulsing the attack launched by the mercenary Saddamist forces and inflicting losses and casualties. The battle ended at 0945 on the same day with the Islamic combatants maintaining their superiority.

At 2100 on 12 August, a reconnaissance unit of the Islamic combatants infiltrated the Iraqi defensive positions in the Hoseyniyeh area. It requested artillery fire on the enemy's positions which destroyed 20 trenches and foxholes of the Saddamist mercenaries and set fire to one of their ammunition dumps, killing more than 30 Iraqi mercenaries. These operations were concluded at 0315 on 15 August, and our forces returned to their bases.

In the Pichangizeh area, an enemy reconnaissance patrol that tried to approach our defensive positions was fired on and vanished from the scene.

There was a sporadic exchange of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts and Islam's combatants silenced the Iraqi fire and smashed a number of enemy defensive trenches, inflicting casualties on the enemy.

Yesterday, as a result of the fire of the Saddamist mercenary criminals, six of our dear compatriots were wounded in Abadan. One house also was damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

15 August Downing of Iraqi Helicopter Reported

LD161725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] An enemy helicopter was shot down by Islam's combatants in the Val-Fajr II operational sector yesterday. According to a report by IRNA and the Central News Unit from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, the enemy helicopter intended to fire on the positions of Islam's combatants in the liberated Martyr Ayatollah as-Sadr heights, but before being able to carry out any effective action it was shot down by our combatants. According to the same report, the helicopter's pilots were killed.

Bushehr Official Explains New Guards Corps Plan

GF111522 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 10 Aug 83

[Interview with Bushehr Revolution Guards Corps Commander Wahabzadeh by unidentified Bushehr radio correspondent — recorded; date, place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother Wahabzadeh, would you as the official in charge of District 6 of the Bushehr Guards Corps tell our listeners about the plan recently implemented under the title "Labbayk Ya Khomeyni" [Response to Khomeyni] and how people can participate in it?

[Wahabzadeh] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Regarding this plan, I must say that our Islamic Revolution and its holy movement for achieving its aspirations has to face many plots which are challenging it. We must always have plans to nullify such plots. We must have plans to continue on the path which has been chosen for us and, God willing, reach the goals set for us. These are goals which Islam has laid down for us. In an Islamic regime,these objectives are essential and we must achieve them.

For these reasons, the guards have a plan. This plan is meant to carry out the imam's orders for setting up a 20-million-strong army and organizing this army in a better way. This plan has to be implemented in five stages. The first stage is called "Labbayk Ya Khomeyni" and is to be implemented first. This plan's goals aim at the proper organization of a people's army which has seen war at the fronts. This plan stresses the experience of the men who have been to the fronts and their organization, the brothers who have been to the fronts of right over wrong. The plan will determine the combat or noncombat expertise of the men who have been to the fronts so that they can be correctly used in jobs that the people's army may entrust to them.

Second, the plan wants to properly use people for the jobs entrusted to them to enhance communication with various forces withwhich we deal to avoid a waste of manpower.

Third, when our forces have been properly organized and cataloged according to their expertise, then when the need arises for such personnel at the fronts, they can be sent immediately according to their expertise. Thus, there will be no waste of time because once the men have been identified according to their specialties, they can be sent any place in the country where they are needed.

Fourth, organized contacts will be established with the people's army to enhance the administration. The relation between the 20-million-strong army and the Guards Corps, in other words, with the mobilized units of the Guards Corps, should be on a very organized system. Therefore, this plan can help us to reach our goals and aid us in this respect.

The fifth stage is the same mentioned above regarding the elimination of waste of time or waste of manpower in dealing with each other.

The sixth stage [number of stages as heard] is meeting the needs of the fronts according to the expertise of the available manpower as explained earlier.

The last stage of this plan is to carry out the preliminary arrangements for the plan which as I said consists of five stages. This is filling in the forms and making visits to the headquarters where the men have to go to fill in the forms. God willing, after filling in the forms, the plan will continue on the bases of these forms. I bring this to the attention of the brothers, those brothers who have been to the warfronts. They can be divided into three groups — those who have gone to the fronts from the mobilized units, those who have gone to the fronts in connection with the crusade or as irregular fighters, and those forces now fighting at the front. This plan concerns the first two groups. Those who are at the front now, God willing, will fill in these forms when they return.

After these five stages have been completed, expertise cards will be issued. In addition to this, they will be given a card bearing the imam's signature and and this will be given to the combatants at any time during the war.

God bless you all.

Free Voice of Iran Says Guards Being Kept in Cities

GF092004 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 9 Aug 83

[Text] A report from the Ministry of the Guards Corps states that with the upsurge of a wave of opposition of the people of Iran against the Islamic regime and with the continuation of a state of war in our country, the revolution guards have been directed to keep a watch on the law and order situation in the cities and to refrain from sending their units to the fronts of the war between Iran and Iraq.

This directive was issued on Saturday, 6 August, and our sources in the Guards Ministry say that the political protest of the people of Iran on Friday is the reason for this policy by the regime. The Guards Corps is still entrusted with the duty of mobilizing units to recruit youths for dispatching to the fronts. Therefore, the guards have remained in the cities since Saturday and only the army units and the groups of young people, who have been forcibly sent to the fronts, are manning the hallowed frontlines.

The presence of the guards in the cities to prevent potential protest demonstrations by the people has resulted in the increase of the guards mobile units and their armed patrolling of the streets since Sunday. According to the report from our sources in the Guards Ministry, the condition in Tehran is explosive.

NVOI Commentary Criticizes Friday Prayers Ceremonies

TA112025 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Abusing People's Religious Beliefs Is Current Policy of Islamic Government"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Following the revolution's victory, Friday prayer ceremonies were transformed into a show of the will of our homeland's Muslim and committed people against imperialism, headed by world-devouring America, and in the battle against the arrogant, the major capitalists, and large landowners. On the basis of this content of Friday prayer ceremonies, they were called religious-political ceremonies.

All of us recall that during that period the congregation imams, particularly Tehran's Friday imam, Mr Khamene'i, in every sermon talked about the need for constant struggle against world-devouring America as well as the necessity of establishing social justice from the viewpoint of Islam.

However, now that the rightists and the CIA-afflicted hojjatis control the Islamic Government in their own hands, and according to them, they have suppressed all revolutionary forces, the tone of the speeches, statements, and deeds of the authorities, including the president, have turned 180 degrees. Whereas one day they said the bazaar is the center of the idolatrous and that the social parasites and the economic terrorists are nestled in the bazaar, today they are saying: Why are the bazaaris bad, did they not help the revolution? Therefore, one should not be surprised if at present these gentlemen now and then chant the

slogan of "Death to America" in a cunning and courteous tone, but in return repeat "Death to the Soviet Union" a hundred times.

But the gentlemen are not satisfied with this. Recently, they have transformed the Friday prayer ceremony, which is a ceremony for demonstration of the people's will in the struggle against the enemies of the Iranian Revolution within the country and abroad, into a means for hurling accusations, abuse, and insults at all true revolutionary forces inside and outside the country and at all sincere supporters of the revolution on the international scene, especially the Soviet Union. These gentlemen should, naturally, resort to sophistry and throw dust into people's eyes to justify so many crimes committed by the rightists ruling over the Islamic Republic against the true revolutionary forces and all those faithful to the revolution — whether Tudeh, Feda'i, Mojahed, or struggling Muslim. It was with the aim of implementing this objective that at the outset they carried out these fascist arrests and detentions and stated that disgraceful stage management and so-called Islamic [word indistinct]. They strived, by linking this development to the fabricated plan of the Islamic Republic's SAVAKists of espionage for the Soviet Union, to involve our northern neighboring country so that according to the famous formula they would negate America by raising the name of the Soviet Union.

Now, they have gone even further. In Friday prayer sermons,they are saying that allegedly in the Soviet Union the people are demonstrating against their government. This is an absurd claim which even the most notorious paid writers of the West are ashamed to express. Our homeland's realistic and alert people are rightly saying that the conciliators and capitulationists, who used to chant the slogan of "Death to America" so many times, either did not believe in this slogan or today are feeling the point of the rightists" and hojjatis bayonet behind their backs and are inventing facts to escape the fate of the Beheshtis and Montazeris.

Abusing the people's religious beliefs and religious customs with the aim of fanning propaganda against the Soviet Union — a country which according to the acknowledgement of friend and foe, during the entire postrevolution period sincerely defended the Iranian Revolution and warned America about any sort of interference in Iran's affairs — is not only contrary to all moral and human standards, but is an indication of the Islamic Government's turn toward disgraceful dependence on imperialism, headed by America, and implementation of the slogan "neither East but West."

Troop Clashes in Afghanistan's Herat Province Noted

GF101710 Tehran IRNA in English 1646 GMT 10 Aug 83

[Text] Zahedan, Aug. 10, IRNA — A group of special armoured force units in Afghanistan, which had left Kabul a month ago for a region in Herat Province to supress the Muslim people of Herat, refrained from doing so and set fire to the government munition.

IRNA quoting informed sources further added that the special force, a majority of whom were the members of the Khalq Party of Afghanistan, due to their internal disputes with the Parcham Party members while refraining from suppressing the people set fire to the government munition. As a result fierce fighting broke out between the forces supporting the government of Kabul and the special force unit resulting in the death of a number from the both sides.

Reportage on Recent Afghan Mujahidin Activities

Paktia, Herat Attacks

GF100553 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 9 Aug 83

[Text] Dear listeners, in an attack on (?Gardez) airport in Paktia Province in Afghanistan, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries either destroyed or damaged four aircraft. Apart from this, the Muslim revolutionaries attacked a military guard post, killing 30 members of the Kabul regime's troops.

In yet another attack on Soviet troops and the Kabul regime's forces in the Shindand district of Herat Province, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries killed three Soviet troops, downed one of their helicopters, and took a number of Soviet troops as prisoners of war. Also, 30 members of the Kabul regime's forces, along with their arms, were taken prisoner by the Muslim revolutionaries.

Destruction of Soviet Aircraft

GF111600 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 10 Aug 83

[Text] Muslim Afghan revolutionaries have attacked the occupationist Soviet forces in an airport in Shindand in Herat Province and destroyed six Soviet aircraft and seven helicopters. Many Soviet troops were also killed and wounded during the clash.

Muslim Afghan revolutionaries also killed 12 members of the occupationist Soviet troops and Kabul regime's forces in clashes in western and southern Kabul.